



HR0307

LRB099 11377 MST 32553 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives wish to honor William "Bill" Bolger on the occasion of his 90th birthday; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Bolger was born on April 16, 1925 at the Bolger Farm in McHenry to Thomas Arthur and Grace Doherty Bolger, one of 10 siblings; and

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WHEREAS, The Bolger family has lived in the McHenry area since the 1800s; and

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WHEREAS, With his beloved wife, Carol, Bill Bolger is the proud father of 4, grandfather of 6, and great-grandfather of 4; and

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WHEREAS, The Bolger family has a long and decorated history of public service; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Bolger served with distinction in the Pacific Theater during World War II; and

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WHEREAS, Bill Bolger was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds suffered during combat; and

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1 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger's father, Thomas Arthur Bolger, was a
2 State Representative, serving McHenry County residents from
3 1931 until 1942; and

4 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger's brother, Thomas Bolger, Jr., was
5 also a dedicated public servant, working on behalf of the
6 taxpayers of the City of McHenry as Treasurer for 25 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Following a long-shot, write-in candidacy, Bill
8 Bolger served as a City of McHenry Alderman for more than 4
9 decades and was instrumental in the establishment of the city's
10 public library, the development of McHenry's largest park, and
11 the building of the Stratton-Bolger Dam on the Fox River; and

12 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger was a delegate to the Democratic
13 National Convention in 1956, 1960, 1964, and 1972; and

14 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger worked throughout McHenry County to
15 help elect John F. Kennedy president in 1960; and

16 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger has been a lifelong lover of the game
17 of baseball, playing on the McHenry Shamrocks as a youth and
18 mentoring young ball players throughout his adult years; and

19 WHEREAS, Bill Bolger's extensive knowledge of local
20 history has been an invaluable source for local newspapers,

1 helping to keep the history of McHenry County alive; and

2 WHEREAS, With his "Practice Simple Acts of Kindness"
3 initiative, Bill Bolger created a local movement that has
4 helped bind the McHenry area together and foster an enduring
5 spirit of civic engagement that continues to this day;
6 therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
8 NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
9 honor William "Bill" Bolger on his 90th birthday and wish him
10 many more wonderful years; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
12 presented to Bill Bolger as an expression of our esteem and
13 respect.